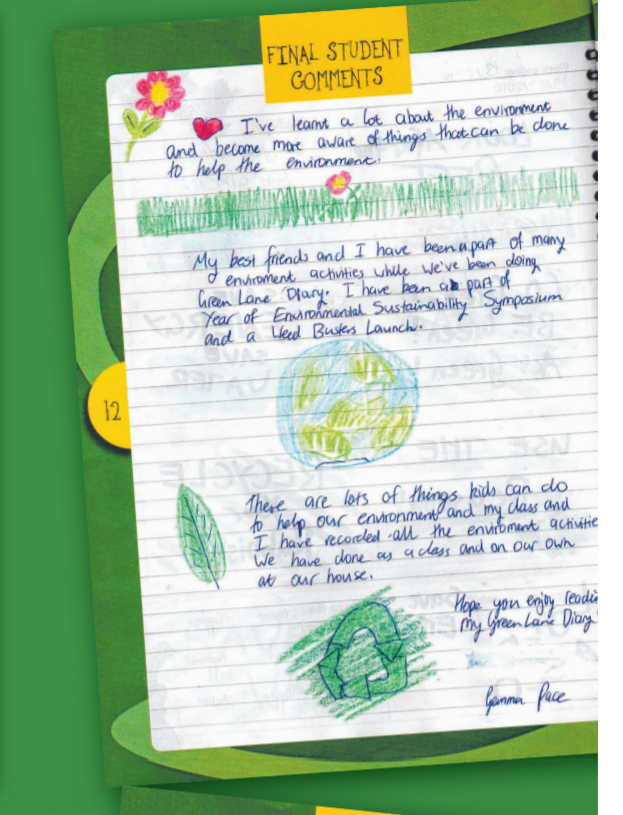
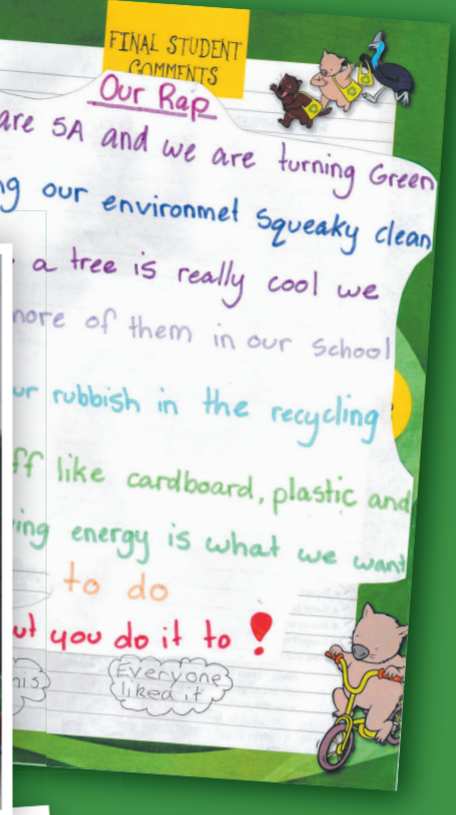


# THINK+ACT+SHARE=CHANGE

## Saluting the next generation of environmental leaders Inaugural Green Lane Diary Awards



### Thinking globally, acting locally

The Green Lane Diary is a free curriculum-linked education program for students aged 10-12 years. This year, more than 14,000 children across Australia investigated environmental issues and kept daily ecological diaries of their discoveries and actions.

The project is an initiative championed by Green Cross, a non-profit and non-governmental environmental organisation founded in 1993 by former USSR president Mikhail Gorbachev.

Spearheading the Swiss-based organisation in Australia is Mara Bun, who brings 20 years of banking, policy and consumer experience to Green Cross Australia. Everyday actions do matter, says the passionate advocate for green education.

"Every light bulb you change or bus

you catch makes a difference," she said. "People often forget every bit counts."

Hosting the inaugural Green Lane Diary Awards at the Queensland Museum last week, Ms Bun congratulated the 200 schools throughout Australia that participated in the 2010 Green Lane Diary project.

"Green Lane Diary has unleashed environmental understanding and action across primary schools" said Green Cross Australia director of education Miranda Mason. "From gardens that protect butterflies to orang-utan friendly tuckshops and Barrier Reef waste-monitoring programs, these kids are willing to show real leadership in environmental protection.

"Kids are really concerned about the environment."

"They hear their parents and other adults talking about all of these big problems and they don't understand why they can't do something about it. It's their world too and they really want to be empowered to do something to help."

Nicholas Buddle, from Runcorn State School, received the Green Lane Diary Hero Award for his success in encouraging his school tuckshop to use only sustainable products. His efforts included researching the plight of orang-utans, whose habitat is being destroyed to make way for palm oil plantations.

Nicholas's initiative has resulted in the whole school community making more conscious decisions about their tuckshop purchases.

Other winners included St Mary's Primary School, Ipswich, for starting an

enterprise growing and selling seedlings, lobbying the local council to improve waste management at the school, promoting and implementing the 5Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Respect and Replenish) within school practices and organising Nude Food days.

Year 6 and 7 students from St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Moorooka, were awarded the 2010 Class Community Action Award for their efforts in fundraising to help buy water tanks for students at a Methodist school in Ghana, Africa.

The school, attended by almost 600 children, does not have access to safe water and sanitation.

Teachers interested in participating in the 2011 project or learning more can visit [www.greenlanediary.com](http://www.greenlanediary.com)

### 2010 Green Lane Diary Award winners

#### Outstanding Class Achievement Awards

Heatley State School, Townsville - Changing our community

Beaconsfield State School, Mackay - Green class leading by example

Ocean Shores Public School, NSW - Putting sustainable thinking into action

St Mary's Primary School, Ipswich - Green entrepreneurs

Manorvale Primary School, Werribee, Victoria - Green performers educating others

2010 Green Lane Diary Class Award

Maleny State School - Leading the way for schools across Australia

#### 2010 Class Community Action Award

St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Moorooka - Supporting clean water for Ghana kids

#### Outstanding Individual Achievement Awards

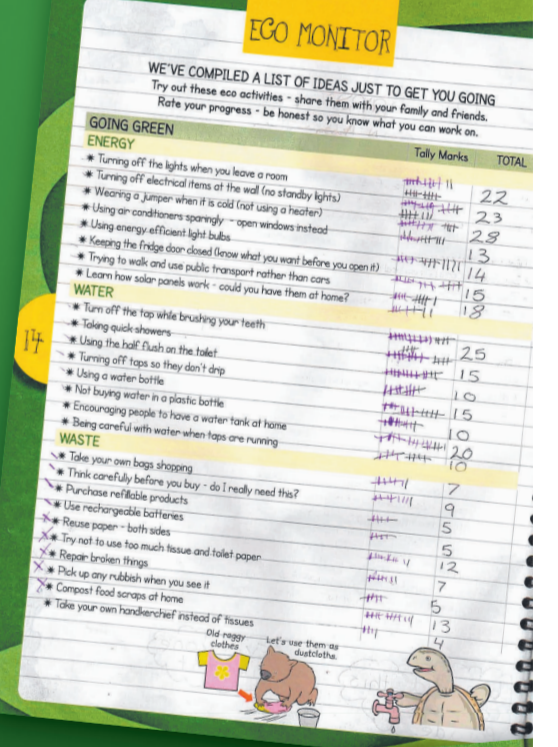
Pantea Konn (Year 6, Seven Hills State School)

Brooke Mills (Year 7, Sunshine Beach State School)

Chloe Melville (Year 5, Taranganba State School)

2010 Green Lane Diary Hero Award

Nicholas Buddle (Runcorn State School)



Pictures: Bruce Long

